

## WOMEN VOTERS GET CREDIT FOR REFORMS

Suffragists in Tacoma and Seattle Worked for Civic Improvements.

## DON'T VOTE FOR REWARDS

They Elected Mayor Seymour Without His Making One Promise.

Advocates of woman suffrage in the State of Washington say, without qualification, that, since women have had the privilege of ballot, their influence for good has been felt both at the elections and in the results obtained. They say also that many men who before had been against women voting, have come to the conclusion that it is a good thing for the State in general, but particularly so for the cities.

In the Tacoma and Seattle correspondence show that women vote very much as the men do, with the exception that women think more of principle than men are generally. They are credited to the influence of women at elections. All in all, the opinion appears to prevail, from what the correspondents say, that Washington is well satisfied with woman suffrage and that no effort carrying much weight will be made to change back to the old way.

## WOMEN HELP TACOMA MOVE.

Suffragists Will Vote for Principle and Not for Money.

TACOMA, Wash., Aug. 9.—It is probably true to say that no other American city of 100,000 people is doing more than Tacoma, if as much, for all its people, along advanced civic and social lines. Since municipal activity has reached its maximum under Mayor William W. Seymour, elected by women voters at a recall election in April, 1911, there is ground for the belief that present results have been achieved partly as a result of woman suffrage.

Mayor Seymour, who received his political training in New York city and never before held a public office other than park commissioner, said regarding votes by women and their active participation in civic affairs:

"I wouldn't have run for Mayor had not suffrage been granted to women at the previous November, in 1910. Tacoma was spending millions for an electric power plant, gravity water supply and other public utilities. I believed that it could be of real service to Tacoma at this time, and that women voters would elect me regardless of a possible campaign in the fact that I was the largest owner of Washington, in point of number of public service corporations.

"They elected me by thoroughly organizing and voting as a unit. The majority of the women voters in Tacoma, I have kept faith with my women supporters and I shall continue. I am a firm believer in woman suffrage, especially as regards the householding part of the city, school affairs and public morals.

"In Washington and Tacoma woman suffrage has been a matter of development. Our women have done themselves well working out the problems of pioneering side by side with husbands, fathers and brothers. Half the pioneering burdens were theirs—half the hardships of creating a State and modern city in the midst of the world's greatest forest. Pioneering made our women courageous and self-reliant. They were entitled to and ready for equal suffrage, perhaps more so than in some Eastern States and cities, where the generation of pioneers has long since passed. To keep faith with Tacoma women I have to satisfy them, especially in matters of health, sanitation and morals.

## Seymour Was Born in Vermont.

Mayor Seymour was born in Vermont fifty-two years ago. He was graduated in 1884 at Williams, and was a member of the class of 1884. He is a Republican, but declared for Roosevelt in the last Presidential election. He supported the Republican State ticket, including Harry Gardner, although Lister, a Democratic friend and fellow townsman, was elected Governor. He lived in New York from 1894 to 1907, then and now a member of the firm of Edmund Seymour & Co., municipal bond dealers at 35 Wall street.

During those years he was a member of Squadron A, Cavalry Militia, and at every election in New York city served as the polls as a watcher or in some capacity. His belief that his technical knowledge of corporation finance and management would be of benefit to Tacoma has proved correct in scores of ways relative to water, gas, electric power and water plants, financing and light, refunding bonds and especially in dealing with the street railway, gas and other public service corporations.

By dealing justly with them Mayor Seymour obtained results where others might have failed, and these results have been for Tacoma's benefit. He previously owned the Tacoma Gas plant, selling it six years before becoming Mayor. He gave \$10,000 of the proceeds for a conservatory in Wright Park. In a word, Tacoma's Mayor is a trained expert of the German cities seek to obtain. He is worth \$500,000 and his fortune is growing. He owns the gas plants at Aberdeen, Hoquiam, Centralia and Chehalis, electric light plants at Bremerton and Charleston, water plants at Port Angeles and Ellensburg and a number of public utilities in Oregon.

## His Views on Woman Suffrage.

His strongest statement regarding woman suffrage is:

"Women will clearly sacrifice more and work harder for principle than will men. While men want pay in cash or jobs, the women are willing to organize and work hard with no reward in sight but the success of a principle. Their work enabled me to be elected without a promise to any individual, concern or corporation."

Mayor Seymour's term will expire next May, and he will not be a candidate for reelection. Features that are claimed for Tacoma and for which Mayor Seymour worked and is trying to improve are:

Clean streets—Tacoma is believed to possess a larger mileage of paved streets and cement sidewalks than any other American city of similar size. It is the aim to keep streets so clean that the woman's shoe will remain unsoiled above the sole. Good drainage maintains this condition except during unusual storms.

Pure Food—Rigid inspection of milk, dairies, bakeries, grocery stores, markets, fruit stands, etc., under stringent laws and

city ordinances. A highly trained woman inspector on the job daily. A great, growing semi-public market regulates prices.

Water Supply—A new gravity system completed in June brings in Green River water from the Cascade Mountains. Watershed patrolled under the Mayor's direction. Mills and logging camps on the watershed required to clean up and adopt rigid sanitary measures. City chemist analyzes water daily.

Street Lighting—The city furnishes its own power and is now trying out the latest cluster and other street lights before adopting a new system to supersede the present arc and incandescents.

Municipal Power—The city's hydroelectric plant on the Nisqually River will generate 500 horse-power, the city now using about 10,000 horse-power. Households are furnished power for cooking and heating at one cent per kilowatt hour, and will be the lowest rate in the world. The city is buying electric stoves, ranges and heaters in carload lots at wholesale, retailing to consumers at cost.

## New Hospital Put Up.

Health and Sanitation—A new contagious hospital, perfectly appointed, supplements general denominational, railroad and county hospitals. Mrs. Fletcher, its expert head, will hereafter give lectures on practical nursing at the high schools. The city health officer has filled many small ponds and chuck holes beyond the paved districts in a campaign against flies and mosquitoes.

Lower Gas Rates—The Mayor personally obtained a reduction of 10 cents to \$1.15 per 1,000 feet for smallest users. Some business men cried for dollar gas, appealing to the State Public Service Commission, which said rates were low enough. (Tacoma's 100,000 population is spread over a large area.) Manufacturers and larger users get reduced rates.

Street Railways—The large area served is again met with present car service. The Mayor and other commissioners set a certain hour once a week to hear kicks and complaints. The company usually had some one present. Little difficulties were quickly solved. Schedules were made satisfactory. Promised new cars are in service. Strap hangers are limited in number to half the number of seats per car seating and standing capacity is placarded in each car.

A trained police officer inspects the car service. The "kick" hour has been discontinued from lack of complaints.

Municipal Dock—Tacoma has been following New York's example. They regulate competition at railroad, steamship, corporation and private docks. The city has leased from the State a large dock of outer harbor area for Pacific and Canal docks should railroad and other docks prove inadequate or charges burdensome. All railroads will reach it. Through the municipal dock for Sound steamers rapidly many boats use the dock. Passengers as come and go through the railroad stations, steam and electric. It is the city's main front entrance.

Weights and Measures—Thoroughly tested and inspected.

Flavoring—This is one of the Mayor's hobbies. He has given money effort and time. They are provided by the school and park boards. Tennis courts are included. Municipal golf links will be provided at Spanaway Lake where the city acquired over 300 acres with the water plant twenty years ago. The location equals that of the Country Club links.

## Tacoma's Fine Park System.

Schools and Parks—The city cooperates thoroughly with the school and Metropolitan park boards. The Mayor is president of the park board to run for Mayor. Tacoma possesses a splendid system of parks and boulevards without any bonded debt except for the school board controls Tacoma's great stadium.

Dock for the Fishing Fleet—A large fleet of salmon fishing boats operates to the salmon, halibut and codfish banks off the coast. The Mayor is negotiating for waterfront property at old Tacoma. The city will build a breakwater, giving the fishermen a special dock. Rentals will pay the interest charge.

Cold Storage—That is another of Mayor Seymour's hobbies. When the large, new cold storage plant was built, he proposed devoting one unit to cold storage plant for the mutual advantage of producers of fruits, vegetables, poultry, fish, butter, eggs, etc., and city consumers. He believed that a price equalizer and enlarge the city's trade with the countryside. Present cold storage operators strongly oppose the plan.

Municipal Telephone—The Bell telephone franchise expires in two years. The Mayor has proposed a city plant. Taxpayers will probably oppose it. The Mayor's real plan is probably to buy the plant, bargain over the new franchise to be bargained after he leaves office. The city will demand either a partnership or a present service is good, perhaps the best on the coast.

Public Morals—The Commissioner of Department of Public Safety and the Commissioner of Police and the Commissioner of Public Health are jointly sponsors for a social hygiene board, men and women, regarded by many as a joke or a red herring. The board has held many meetings, some secret, and presented numerous ideas. The Mayor believes the board is doing good. He has held many meetings, some secret, and presented numerous ideas. The Mayor believes the board is doing good. He has held many meetings, some secret, and presented numerous ideas.

A dance hall open to criticism was closed and reopened under patronage of the building board. Within a month the building burned. A fire, of course, strictly enforced, keeps boys and girls absolutely off the streets after 9 o'clock at night.

## Woman Social Service Officer.

The Department of Public Safety maintains a woman social service officer, who, June made 182 calls and had 118 interviews. She also made 124 calls and had 420 office interviews. These officers, the entire police and citizens generally look after the boys and girls as never before. An expert humane officer devotes his time to dumb animals.

Tacoma's municipal and social activities have increased in number and been amplified in scope under Mayor Seymour. Last December several cities were changed from dry to wet with the aid of women's votes, including Everett and Steilacoom. Tacoma and Grays Harbor were anti-bellum days. It is said Steilacoom women generally voted "wet" because instead of going home after office hours they were in the city.

City elections are non-partisan. Last November women hero worshippers voted for Roosevelt. Direct primaries greatly favor the silver-tongued demagogue, relegating representative conventions and nominations supposedly based upon fitness. Nevertheless, the keenest political observer believes that woman suffrage will not generally change results in Washington—that votes will vote with husbands or husbands with wives, accordingly as one of the other has pronounced ideas on questions at issue.

Among the pioneers there is much comradeship between husbands and wives, and Mayor Seymour points out Tacoma's commission government of five committees. Mayor included, is many times more efficient than the old form of sixteen ward councilmen, who met once a week to pass ordinances and boss the executive officers.

Possessing the largest payroll in the Pacific Northwest, Tacoma has escaped serious labor troubles. The I. W. W. made a feeble demonstration a year ago, but made no headway. Union labor is against them. The open shop prevails in a great majority Tacoma industries.

The I. W. W. called a strike for May

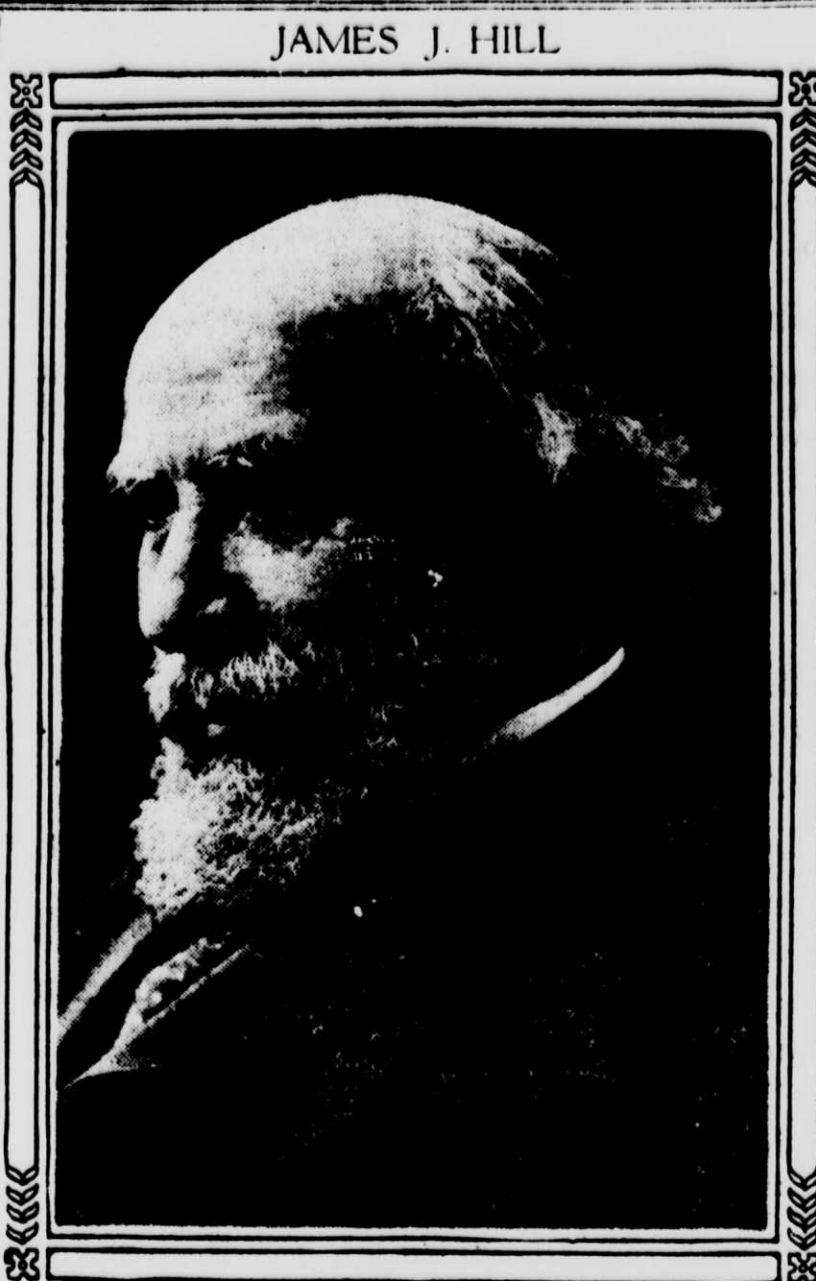


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5 last covering the entire logging, lumber and shingle industries of western Washington. Nothing came of it. Tacoma permits street car on side streets for Socialists, I. W. W.'s and others.

Woman suffrage is partly responsible for mothers pension and lazy husband laws, effective June 12. Indigent mothers with one child receive \$15 a month and \$5 for each additional child under 15. All hearings are before Superior Court judges, who have much latitude.

Non-supporting husbands after a court hearing are sentenced to work for the county three or four months. The women each day's work the county pays \$1.50 to the family. Father works on roads at the rock crushers, cleaning jail, court house or otherwise. It is the theory that he will acquire the work habit and look after his family after being released.

The State Labor Commission employs a woman factory inspector. Women are demanding a woman's minimum wage law. A State commission chiefly women is investigating the subject.

The State last November elected a woman State Superintendent of Public Instruction. Numerous appointments to boards and commissions have women members.

## No Increase in Taxes.

As yet taxes have not increased. Reimbursement sought where possible. They do the State land grant will eventually bring \$100,000,000. Permanent irreducible funds, chiefly common school and higher educational, have \$10,000,000 invested in school county and municipal interest-bearing bonds.

Tacoma is setting thirty street railways and telephones already pay a percentage of gross receipts. The charter limit street railway franchise to twenty-five years. When the present franchises expire, ten and twelve years hence, the city will probably demand a partnership basis on the Chicago plan.

Synchronizing with woman suffrage, Tacoma has become self-reliant. She borrows money at as low a rate as public service corporations—usually lower. Her light, power and water plants are providing their own sinking funds. Terminal railroads, waterways and harbors, as needed, if the city government continues under the control of as efficient men as the present Mayor, his four fellow commissioners and not least, Judge Theodore L. Stiles, city attorney, former corporation lawyer and State Supreme Court Justice.

Almost unconsciously, Tacoma has placed experts in charge. She will go to further achievement. Women voters will help!

## WOMEN VOTE SAME AS MEN.

No Differences in Elections Under New Law in Washington.

SEATTLE, Aug. 9.—Seattle and the State of Washington are not as advanced among students of politics as because either is so much different from any other city or any other commonwealth, but because things have happened which have made them so different—that is, to the observer at a distance.

Washington is a woman suffrage State. The first election in which women were in a recall election in Seattle, and the Mayor against whom this weapon was aimed was recalled. It was the first exercise of the right of suffrage by the women of this State. It was the first recall election in the State, therefore, argue observers, the women recalled Mayor Gill.

This is not the first, however, as subsequent events prove. The votes of the women merely increased the total number of votes cast. Gill's wide open town recalled him—that and his chief of police.

Seattle has been politically vociferous for some time, and that has put Seattle in the limelight. This city casts a large part of its vote, and its authorities have permitted Industrial Workers of the World sympathizers, Emma Goldman's adherents, all sorts and conditions of rabble rousers, religious fanatics, men and women with messages, and politicians of spectacular breed—any one at all, in fact—that license which they, under the plea of freedom of speech, have used and abused to Seattle's discredit elsewhere.

License by Socialists and I. W. W. Contrary to outside opinion there has been no unusual unrest in which Socialists and the I. W. W. have taken part, but there has been unusual license which Socialists and the I. W. W. have misused.

Seattle is much like other American cities. It exists under a charter, has a Mayor and council and other elective and appointive officials. It has survived much municipal ownership agitation without embarking far on that sea of troubled waters. In fact, only one of its public utilities, the water system, is entirely municipally owned and managed.

Woman suffrage was adopted by this State in 1910 and went into effect in 1911. The first election afterward was the recall of Mayor Hiram Gill of Seattle. The vote jumped by participation of the women in the election from a total of 34,681 on March 8, 1910, to 62,322 on February 7, 1911.

On March 5, 1912, Gill was again a

candidate for Mayor, this time against the Socialist, Frank J. Rowland. The vote stood: Gill, 31,241; Cottrell, 32,085; total, 63,326.

This is a total of only 1,444 votes over the preceding election, when Gill was recalled by a plurality of 6,214. It was a lead for Cottrell over Gill of only 844 votes. As Gill received only 25,705 votes in 1911, he was recalled, and 31,241 women voters were recalled, and 31,241 women must have divided on different lines on each occasion.

In 1911 there was a loud, glaring and dangerous condition, when Gill was recalled by the Gill administration. The women of this district all supported Mr. Gill. In 1912 this district had been wiped out, yet Gill's vote increased 5,576, while the total vote increased only 1,444. In 1911, however, the Socialists had a candidate in the field. In 1912 they had none. The Socialists voted for Cottrell, and this gave him his lead of 844 over Gill. It is therefore evident that the Socialists instead of the woman vote elected Mr. Cottrell.

## Cottrell Not a Progressive.

Observers at a distance class Mr. Cottrell as a Progressive, but he does not belong to or affiliate with that party. He is and always has been a professed Democrat with pronounced socialist tendencies. He is the international head of the Independent Order of Good Templars and the rabid champion of anything which has the saloon for its object of attack. He is therefore evidence that the Socialists flag should not be carried in parades and said so.

The so-called indications of unrest, the flag agitation, the I. W. W. and Socialist street meetings and the recent riots, have made Seattle spectacular, but they are not due to women exercising their rights as voters. The Mayor has been an open sympathizer with this sort of "free speech" based on the Chicago plan. The flag should not be carried in parades and said so.

An I. W. W. meeting was broken into by a couple of marines during Secretary Dan Sullivan's visit here, and they were beaten up by the police. The same night the Secretary made a speech at the Rainier Club in which, without knowledge of the local situation, he made some uncomplimentary remarks about the flag sympathizers.

These remarks were printed. The following night 600 sailors and marines were ashore on liberty. These men avenged the slights of the preceding evening by destroying every I. W. W. and Socialist headquarters in the city.

This was not a manifestation of unrest. It was the natural consequence of a series of events which culminated in the so-called riots simply because of executive continence.

Now as to the newly acquired place of the women in all this, it can be said after the general State election that women vote just about as men vote, not that they follow their husbands, fathers, brothers and sweethearts, but that the men and measures they vote for are shaped by events.

## Women Voted a Town Wet.

There is one exception to this rule. Washington is a local option State, and the dry areas are no doubt larger than they would be if women did not vote. Even on this question women do the unexpected, for the men voted the city of Everett dry, and then after equal suffrage the women voted it wet.

It can be said also that the women exercise the right of suffrage obtained after a long hard struggle. In the last two municipal and the one State election held since woman suffrage was adopted, the vote of the State almost doubled. In a commonwealth where there are more men than women numerically this signifies that as large a proportion of women as men go to the polls.

In other words, just as many women as men vote, and they vote on the whole just as intelligently. Gill was recalled for cause. Cottrell was elected, not because his policies were endorsed, but because the city could not recall the Mayor it had recalled only a few months before without reversing its previous judgment. In both cases it acted wisely, and the women shared equally with the men in the action.

Seattle's recent symptoms were only the visible evidence of a brief sliver season for which Mr. Cottrell alone is responsible. The voters were westerly urged to recall Mr. Cottrell after the recent disturbances, but they kept their heads and refused to take any unwise action. Seattle has used the recall but once, and used it effectively. It will not take up that weapon to fight mere idiosyncrasies.

Further evidence of the voting homogeneity of the sexes is found in the by-elections when women have fared no better to the polls in just the same proportion that the men fared.

The last Legislature contained two women in the masses introduced and supported by them all had special significance for women in that they created places for them on commissions and in public office. They organized and lobbied for the adoption of the women's suffrage and lobbyists of the other sex.

In short, if the exercise of the franchise by women has any special political significance it has not yet been shown in this State.

## J. J. HILL DISCUSSES CROPS IN NORTHWEST

Runs His Eye Over the Big Green Field Stretching Westward From the Twin Cities.

## FINDS OUTLOOK IMPROVING

It's Remarkable How Montana's Coming Up, Says Mr. Hill; A Wonderful State.

By JOSEPH B. GILDER.

Mr. Hill is leaving this afternoon on his annual fishing trip up the St. John's River. He expects to return about July 10, and will be glad to see you at any time.

This in response to my request for a talk with J. J. Hill on conditions in the Northwest. But appalled when the time came at the prospect of an interview, Mr. Hill slipped quietly back from Montreal to St. Paul by way of Canada. The call of New York to the West is irresistible, however, and the beginning of August found him again at the executive offices of the Great Northern Railway in Nassau street. I telephoned his secretary to inquire if it would be convenient for the great man to see me. "How near are you?" he asked. "An easy ten minutes." "Come right over." And over I came.

In one sense, and only one, Mr. Hill is a small man. He is not tall, a defect, if defect it be, which he shares with many of the world's greatest men. But he is sturdy and stockily built and gives such an impression of strength and vigor that one soon forgets, if he has noted at all, any deficiency in the matter of height. And when he begins to talk and to bring those penetrating brown eyes of his to bear upon you he looms larger and larger as the minutes lapse, and you come away ready to swear it is a big man you have been listening to.

## Seventy-Five Years Young.

One feels that at 75 Mr. Hill isn't a day too old to do over again if necessary the great work in railway construction and empire building that taxed the energies of his young manhood and middle age, and of which he and the American people are reaping the rich reward.

After a casual reference to his late fishing trip, "The crops won't be quite so big this year," I ventured.

Some bigger, others not so big. In South Dakota it has been dry too long. "I'll show you." And rising Mr. Hill laid his hand on an oft consulted railroad map of the Northwest and spread it out on a table in the middle of the room.

"Down here," and his pencil follows the words or runs ahead of them, "in the southeast corner of the State, a corn and live stock section, the outlook is very good. Along the west and north for some little distance we are sure of half a crop, and conditions are steadily improving. In the greater part of eastern South Dakota, in the two big valleys, the 'Jim and Sioux' conditions are only fair. Northwest they're not so good. They'll tell you fourteen bushels of wheat to the acre, but I think it'll run nearer ten, not more than twelve anyway."

In the southwestern part of North Dakota, along the line of the Northern Pacific, is a good crop of wheat. Last year this year I should put it at about seven bushels to the acre. In the northwestern part, where they break up the soil with discs, they'll get about twelve bushels a bushel, but they'll get it all right to twenty. Then there's Montana; that's a wonderful State.

## Praise of Montana.

"I've been told," said I, "that long before the mineral wealth of her mountains is exhausted Montana will have become the world's richest granary. Such a prediction was quoted to me a year ago by John D. Ryan."

"Do you know John Ryan?" he asked. "I know him. I've known him twelve years or so, long before he became president of the Amalgamated Copper Company, and I've seen him grow and mature. He's a wonderful man, a world's richest granary. Such a prediction was quoted to me a year ago by John D. Ryan."

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